

**ARIZONA VETERANS' SERVICE ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**4141 N. 3rd St., Phoenix, AZ 85012**  
**Thursday – July 10, 2008**

**M I N U T E S**

**Call to Order** – Acting Chairman Yamanouchi opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present**

Advisory Commissioners

Kenneth Yamanouchi, Vice Chairman

Officer

Gary Fredricks  
Phillip Quochytewa  
Tom Heaney  
Larry McKim  
Linda Fulkerson  
Bill Lunsford  
George Cushing

Arizona Department of Veterans' Services

Dave Hampton, Public Information

Lee Borgen, Veterans' Benefits Counselor  
Donna Adams, Development Specialist

**Absent**

Terrie Gent

Newly appointed Commissioner George Cushing was welcomed to the Commission by Acting Chairman Yamanouchi. Mrs. Quochytewa was welcomed as a guest.

**Election of Chairman** – Acting Chairman Yamanouchi declared nominations open for Chairman for the 2008-09 fiscal year. Commissioner Heaney nominated Kenneth Yamanouchi. With no further nominations, nominations were closed and Kenneth Yamanouchi was unanimously elected Chairman. Chairman Yamanouchi declared nominations open for Vice-Chair. Commissioner Heaney nominated Linda Fulkerson. With no further nominations, nominations were closed and Linda Fulkerson was unanimously elected Vice-Chairperson for the 2008-09 fiscal year.

**Minutes of the previous meeting** – A motion was made by Commissioner McKim to table approval of the July minutes, seconded by Commissioner Heaney; motion and second withdrawn. A motion was made by Commissioner McKim to approve the June minutes subject to reconstruction and approval, seconded and carried.

**Communications** – No action required.

**Agency Announcements and Updates**

Dave Hampton, PIO

- Governor Napolitano has announced the appointment of Col. Joey Strickland, USA (Ret) as Director of ADVS. Col. Strickland formerly served as Deputy Secretary and Executive Director of the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs, responsible for overseeing five veterans' nursing homes, one state veterans' cemetery, and the Department's administrative and claims divisions.
- The legislature adjourned on June 27th without hearing some key bills affecting veterans and the military, including SB 1169 that contained changes to the Military Family Relief Fund statutes. Legislation will be reintroduced next legislative session.

**Region I Meeting - Glendale**

Arizona Veterans Service Advisory Commission  
July 10, 2008

Commissioner Fredricks requested announcement fliers for the Region I meeting to be held at Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1433 in Glendale on August 16th. Copies of the flier were distributed. A press release has been sent to Dave Hampton for distribution. Staff will send letters of invitation to the VA Medical Center, VA Regional Office, and local officials. It was determined that the Arizona State Seal should be used on Commission correspondence as opposed to the ADVS Department logo.

Chairman Yamanouchi suggested that the Commissioners meet for dinner the evening prior to the meeting at American Legion Post 29 in Glendale. Staff was requested to send directions to the Commissioners.

**Region Appointments for Newly Appointed Commissioners** – Chairman Yamanouchi announced the following regional appointments:

- Region I – George Cushing
- Region II – Tom Heaney
- Region III – Terrie Gent

Staff was instructed to prepare a calendar of Regional Meetings for the next year for consideration at the next meeting, allowing for the Region I meeting to be held in September.

### **Comments**

- Discussion was held regarding the relationship between the Department of Veterans' Services and the Advisory Commission. There was a consensus of concern regarding prior issues with travel and the Department's interaction with the Commissioners. Chairman Yamanouchi will bring these concerns to Director Strickland.
- Chairman Yamanouchi suggested that the Commissioners must constantly ask themselves, "How have we contributed to the betterment of others, and have I made a difference?" A new agenda item will be added each month to read, "Comments for the betterment of the organizations."
- Chairman Yamanouchi discussed the need for attendance and the meetings. He referred to a prior vote of the Commissioners to allow no more than four absences during the fiscal year.
- Chairman Yamanouchi has charged Vice-Chairperson Fulkerson with keeping discussions on track during the meeting as well as providing legislative updates at each meeting. The latter will be added as an agenda item.
- It was determined by consensus that the current business cards with a common ADVS address and phone number do not serve well. Staff was directed to investigate replacing all business cards with new ones with home addresses and phone numbers and to discontinue the dedicated line for Commission phone messages.

A motion was made by Larry McKim to adjourn at 11:20 a.m., seconded and carried.

Donna Adams

Recorder